GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2107
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2000
EXPENDITURE REFORMS COMMISSION
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;JAGMEET SINGH BRAR;NAWAL KISHORE RAI;SUKDEO PASWAN;SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the expenditure Reforms Commission was constituted;

(b) the terms and reference of the Commission;

(c) whether the Commission has submitted its first stage report;

(d) if so, the recommendations made by the Commission in its first stage report and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(e) the time by which the Commission is likely to submit its full report and the number of in which this report is likely to be submitted by the Commission ?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance (Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil)

(a) The Expenditure Reforms Commission was constituted on 28.2.2000.

(b) The terms of reference are as under:

(1) Keeping in view the evolving role of Government, the need to foster convergence and avoiding overlap in the functions of different Central Government Ministries, Departments and attached organisations and the role of the State Governments, suggest a road map for reducing the functions, activities and administrative structure of the Central Government;

(2) Review the framework of all subsidies, both explicit and implicit, examine the economic rationale for their continuance and make recommendations for making subsidies transparent and suggest measures for maximising their impact on the target population at minimum cost;

(3) Review the framework for determination of user charges of Departmental and commercial entities and suggest an effective strategy for cost recovery through user charges;

(4) Review the adequacy of staffing under Central Government Ministries,attached offices and institutions and suggest measures for rationalising the staff and cadres of different services. In this context also review the existing arrangements for re-deployment and re-training of surplus staff to ensure that any additional manpower for new areas of Government activities are met by re-deployment;

(5) Review the procedure for setting up Government funded autonomous institutions and their pattern of funding and suggest measures for effecting improvement and reducing budgetary support for their activities; and

(6) Consider any other relevant issue concerning expenditure management in Government and make suitable recommendations.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) The Expenditure Reforms Commission has submitted its first report on `food subsidy`. The recommendation regarding modification of economic cost of wheat and rice has been implemented;

(e) The Commission is likely to submit its final report within a period of one year and may send recommendations on quarterly basis.